

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A map information providing device for providing map information of a destination a user ~~wants~~ requests, in response to a request from a user terminal device through a network, comprising:

map information providing means for providing map information;

means for registering a ~~second~~ first destination which a map information provider originally selects, in addition to a ~~first~~ second destination of a dealer who is under contract with ~~[[a]] the map information provider, the first and second destinations to be~~ published on a map, as map information; and

means for checking whether the requested destination is the first destination or the second destination when the map information of ~~[[a]] the requested~~ destination is requested by the user terminal device, ~~as the result,~~

wherein, when the requested destination proves to be is checked as the first destination, providing the map information is provided free of charge,

wherein while when the requested destination proves to be is checked as the second destination, notifying the user terminal device of the effect is notified that the second destination is with requires a charge, so to confirm receiving confirmation of a user's will to pay for payment of the charge, and when confirming payment acceptance of the payment is confirmed by at the user terminal device, performing billing processing, and providing the map information,

~~wherein while~~ when refusal of ~~the~~ payment of the charge is confirmed by the user terminal device, finishing a connection.

2. (Currently Amended) The map information providing device as set forth in Claim 1, further comprising:

means for checking whether the requested destination is one of the first destination ~~or~~ and the second destination when the map information of a destination is requested by the user terminal device.

3. (Original) The map information providing device as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said map information providing means creates and provides the map information with a mark attached to the corresponding destination when providing the map information.

4. (Currently Amended) A map information providing device for providing map information of a destination a user ~~wants~~ requests, in response to a request from a user terminal device through a network, comprising:

map information providing means for providing map information;

means for registering a ~~second~~ first destination which a map information provider originally selects, in addition to a ~~first~~ second destination of a dealer who is under contract with the map information provider, the first and second destinations ~~to be~~ published on a map, as map information;

means for checking whether ~~the~~ a plurality of destinations include the second destination ~~or not~~ when the map information of ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of destinations ~~is~~ are

requested by the user terminal device;

means for, when the ~~above~~ plurality of destinations include at least one ~~and~~ or more second destinations as the result of the ~~above~~ means for checking, notifying the user terminal device ~~of the effect~~ that the second destination ~~is with~~ requires a charge, and receiving confirmation of confirming a user's ~~will to pay~~ payment of the charge; and

means for performing billing processing and providing the map information of all the destinations requested when acceptance of the payment is confirmed by the user terminal device, and providing the map information of the destinations other than the second destination when refusal of the payment is confirmed by the user terminal device.

5. (Original) The map information providing device as set forth in Claim 4, wherein said map information providing means further includes a function of creating and providing the map information including all the destinations on the same map when there is a request for two ~~and~~ or more destinations requiring the map information.

6. (Original) The map information providing device as set forth in Claim 4, wherein said map information providing means creates and provides the map information with a mark attached to the corresponding destination when providing the map information.

7. (Currently Amended) The map information providing device as set forth in Claim 4, wherein said map information providing means further includes a function of creating and providing the map information including all the destinations on the same map when there is a request for two ~~and~~ or more destinations requiring the map information, and

creates and provides the map information with a mark attached to the corresponding destination when providing the map information.

8. (Currently Amended) A map information providing device for providing map information of a destination a user ~~wants~~ requests, in response to a request from a user terminal device through a network, comprising:

map information providing means for providing map information;

means for registering a ~~second~~ first destination which a map information provider originally selects, in addition to a ~~first~~ second destination of a dealer who is under contract with the map information provider, the first and second destinations ~~to be~~ published on a map, as map information;

means for checking whether ~~the~~ a plurality of destinations include the second destination ~~or not~~ when the map information of a reference point and a plurality of destinations ~~is~~ are requested by the user terminal device;

means for, when the ~~above~~ plurality of destinations include at least one ~~and~~ or more second destinations as the result of the ~~above~~ means for checking, notifying the user terminal device ~~of the effect~~ that the second destination ~~is with~~ requires a charge, and receiving confirmation of confirming a user's ~~will to pay~~ payment of the charge; and

means for performing billing processing, and creating and providing the map information including all the destinations and a reference point requested on the ~~same~~ map when acceptance of the payment is confirmed by the user terminal device, and creating and providing the map information including the reference point and the destinations other than the second destination on the same map when refusal of the payment is confirmed by the user

9. (Original) The map information providing device as set forth in Claim 8, wherein said map information providing means creates the map information with a mark attached to the corresponding destination and reference point when creating the map information.

10. (Currently Amended) A map information providing system having a user terminal device, a map information providing device for providing map information of a destination a user ~~wants~~ requests, in response to a request from the user terminal device, and the Internet for connecting ~~them~~ the user terminal device and map information providing device with each other, in which the user terminal device ~~comprising~~ comprises:

means for gaining access to a home page opened on the Internet by a map information provider;

means for entering and sending a retrieval condition of a destination on the home page, selecting a desired destination from the received destination candidates, and sending the same destination so as to request its map information from the map information provider; and

means for receiving and displaying the home page information and the map information,

while the map information providing device comprising:

map information providing means for providing map information;

means for registering a ~~second~~ first destination which the map information provider originally selects, in addition to a ~~first~~ second destination of a dealer who is under contract

with the map information provider, the first and second destinations ~~to be~~ published on a map, as map information;

means for retrieving the map information according to the retrieval condition received from the user terminal device and sending the destination candidate list information to the user terminal device;

means for checking whether the requested destination is the first destination or the second destination when the map information of the selected destination is requested by the user terminal device; and

means for providing the map information free of charge when the destination ~~proves to be~~ is checked as the first destination as the result of the ~~above~~ means for checking, notifying the user terminal device of the effect that the second destination ~~is with~~ requires a charge, ~~so to confirm~~ receiving confirmation of a user's ~~will to pay for~~ payment of the charge when the destination ~~proves to be~~ is checked as the second destination, when confirming payment acceptance ~~of the payment is confirmed by~~ at the user terminal device, performing billing processing and providing the map information, while when refusal of the payment is confirmed by the user terminal device, finishing a connection.

11. (Original) The map information providing system as set forth in Claim 10, wherein said map information providing means creates and provides the map information with a mark attached to the corresponding destination when providing the map information.

12. (Currently Amended) A map information providing system having a user terminal device, a map information providing device for providing map information of a

destination a user ~~wants~~ requests, in response to a request from the user terminal device, and the Internet for connecting ~~them~~ the user terminal device and map information providing device with each other,

in which the user terminal device ~~comprising~~ comprises:

means for gaining access to a home page opened on the Internet by a map information provider;

means for repeating, ~~several times~~, an operation of entering and sending a retrieval condition of a destination on the home page and selecting a desired destination from the received destination candidate list information, and storing the selected destinations ~~every time~~;

means for requesting the map information of the several destinations stored in the above from the map information provider; and

means for receiving and displaying the home page information and the map information, ~~while~~

the map information providing device comprising:

map information providing means for providing map information;

means for registering a ~~second~~ first destination which the map information provider originally selects, in addition to a ~~first~~ second destination of a dealer who is under contract with the map information provider, the first and second destinations to be published on a map, as map information;

means for retrieving the map information according to the retrieval condition received from the user terminal device and sending the destination candidate list information to the user terminal device;

means for checking whether the several destinations include the second destination ~~or not~~ when the map information of the several destinations ~~is~~ are requested by the user terminal device;

means for, when the above destinations include at least one ~~and~~ or more second destinations as the result of the above check, notifying the user terminal device of the effect that the second destination ~~is with~~ requires a charge, and receiving confirmation of confirming a user's ~~will to pay~~ payment of the charge; and

means for performing billing processing and providing the map information of all the requested destinations when acceptance of the payment is confirmed by the user terminal device, and providing the map information of the destinations other than the second destination when refusal of the payment is confirmed by the user terminal device.

13. (Original) The map information providing system as set forth in Claim 12, wherein said map information providing means creates and provides the map information with a mark attached to the corresponding destination when providing the map information.

14. (Currently Amended) The map information providing system as set forth in Claim 12, wherein said map information providing means of the map information providing device ~~further~~ includes a function of creating and providing the map information including all the destinations on the same map when ~~there is~~ a request for two ~~and~~ or more destinations requiring the map information, and

~~creates and provides~~ creating and providing the map information with a mark attached

to the corresponding destination when providing the map information.

15. (Currently Amended) A map information providing system having a user terminal device, a map information providing device for providing map information of a destination a user ~~wants~~ requests, in response to a request from the user terminal device, and the Internet for connecting ~~them~~ the user terminal device and map information providing device with each other, in which

the user terminal device ~~comprising~~ comprises:

means for gaining access to a home page opened on the Internet by a map information provider;

means for repeating, ~~several times~~, an operation of entering and sending a retrieval condition of a destination on the home page and selecting a desired destination from the received destination candidate list information, and storing the selected destinations ~~every time~~;

means for entering and sending a retrieval condition of a reference point on the home page, selecting a desired reference point from the received reference point candidate list information, and storing the same reference point;

means for requesting the map information of the several destinations and the reference point stored in the above from the map information provider; and

means for receiving and displaying the home page information and the map information, ~~while~~

the map information providing device comprising:

map information providing means for providing map information;

means for registering a ~~second~~ first destination which the map information provider originally selects, in addition to a ~~first~~ second destination of a dealer who is under contract with the map information provider, the first and second destinations to ~~be~~ published on a map, as map information;

means for retrieving the map information according to the retrieval condition received from the user terminal device and sending the destination candidate list information and the reference point candidate list information to the user terminal device;

means for checking whether the several destinations include the second destination ~~or not~~ when the map information of the reference point and the several destinations ~~is~~ are requested by the user terminal device;

means for, when the above destinations include at least one ~~and~~ or more second destinations as the result of the above check, notifying the user terminal device of the effect that the second destination ~~is with~~ requires a charge, and receiving confirmation of ~~confirming~~ a user's ~~will to pay~~ payment of the charge; and

means for performing billing processing, and creating and providing the map information including all the requested destinations and reference point on the same map when acceptance of the payment is confirmed by the user terminal device, and creating and providing the map information including the reference point and the destinations other than the second destination on the same map when refusal of the payment is confirmed by the user terminal device.

16. (Original) The map information providing system as set forth in Claim 15,

wherein said map information providing device creates the map information with a mark attached to the corresponding destination and reference point when creating the map information.

17. (Currently Amended) A map information providing method in which a map information providing device provides map information of a destination a user ~~wants~~ requests, in response to a request from a user terminal device, comprising ~~the following steps~~ of:

registering pay destinations and free destinations into the map information providing device in advance;

checking whether the requested destination is one of free of charge ~~or~~ and with a charge when the map information of a destination is requested by the user terminal device;

providing the map information free of charge when the destination ~~proves to be~~ is checked as being free ~~as the result of the check~~;

notifying the user terminal device of ~~this effect~~ when the destination ~~proves to be~~ is checked as being with a charge and receiving confirmation of ~~confirming~~ a user's ~~will to pay~~ payment for the charge; and

performing billing processing and providing the map information when a user accepts the payment, while

finishing a connection when a user refuses the payment.

18. (Currently Amended) A map information providing method in which a map information providing device provides map information of a destination a user ~~wants~~

requests, in response to a request from a user terminal device, comprising ~~the following steps~~
of:

registering pay destinations and free destinations into the map information providing
device in advance;

checking whether ~~the several~~ requested destinations include the pay destination when
the map information of several destinations is are requested by the user terminal device;

notifying the user terminal device of ~~this effect~~ when the requested destinations
include at least one and or more pay destinations as the result of ~~the~~ checking and confirming
receipt of confirming a user's ~~will to pay~~ payment for the charge; and

performing billing processing when a user accepts the payment and creating and
providing the map information including all the requested destinations on the same map;
while

creating and providing the map information including the destinations other than the
pay destination on the same map when a user refuses the payment.

19. (Currently Amended) A map information providing method in which a map
information providing device provides map information of a destination a user ~~wants~~
requests, in response to a request from a user terminal device, comprising ~~the following steps~~
of:

registering pay destinations and free destinations into the map information providing
device in advance;

checking whether ~~the several~~ requested destinations include the pay destination when
the map information of a reference point and several destinations is are requested by the user

terminal device;

notifying the user terminal device of ~~this effect~~ when the destinations include at least one ~~and~~ or more pay destinations as the result of the check and receiving confirmation of ~~confirming~~ a user's ~~will to pay~~ payment for the charge; and

performing billing processing when a user accepts the payment, and creating and providing the map information including all the requested destinations and reference point on the same map; while

creating and providing the map information including the reference point and the destinations other than the pay destination on the same map when a user refuses the payment.

20. (Currently Amended) A programmable storage medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform operations supporting a map information providing program, ~~which works a computer,~~ for providing the map information of a destination a user ~~wants~~ requests, in response to a request from a user terminal device, the operations ~~comprising the functions of:~~

~~a function of~~ registering a ~~second~~ first destination which a map information provider originally selects, in addition to a ~~first~~ second destination of a dealer who is under contract with a map information provider, the first and second destinations ~~to be~~ published on a map, as map information;

~~a function of~~ checking whether the requested destination is one of the first destination ~~or~~ and the second destination when the map information of a destination is are requested by the user terminal device; and

~~a function of~~ providing the map information free of charge when the destination

~~proves to be~~ is checked as the first destination ~~as the result of the above check~~, and notifying the user terminal device ~~of the effect~~ that the second destination ~~is with~~ requires a charge, so ~~to confirm~~ receiving confirmation of a user's ~~will to pay for~~ payment of the charge when the destination ~~proves to be~~ is checked as the second destination, ~~when confirming payment~~ acceptance ~~of the payment is confirmed~~ by the user terminal device, performing billing processing and providing the map information, while ~~when confirming payment~~ refusal of the payment is confirmed by the user terminal device, finishing a connection.

21. (Currently Amended) A programmable storage medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform operations supporting a map information providing program, ~~which works a computer~~, for providing the map information of a destination a user ~~wants~~ requests, in response to a request from a user terminal device, the operations comprising ~~the functions of~~:

~~a function of~~ registering a ~~second~~ first destination which a map information provider originally selects, in addition to a ~~first~~ second destination of a dealer who is under contract with the map information provider, the first and second destinations ~~to be~~ published on a map, as map information;

~~a function of~~ checking whether the several destinations include the second destination ~~or not~~ when the map information of several destinations ~~is~~ are requested by the user terminal device;

~~a function of~~, when the above destinations include at least one ~~and~~ or more second destinations as the result of the ~~above check~~ checking, notifying the user terminal device ~~of the effect~~ that the second destination ~~is with~~ requires a charge, and confirming payment

acceptance of a user[['s]] ~~will~~ to pay of the charge; and

~~a function of~~ performing billing processing, and creating and providing the map information including all the requested destinations on the ~~same~~ map when payment acceptance ~~of the payment~~ is confirmed by the user terminal device, and creating and providing the map information including the destinations other than the second destination when payment refusal ~~of the payment~~ is confirmed by the user terminal device.

22. (Currently Amended) A programmable storage medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform operations supporting a map information providing program, ~~which works a computer~~, for providing the map information of a destination a user ~~wants~~ requests, in response to a request from a user terminal device, the operations comprising ~~the functions of~~:

~~a function of~~ registering a ~~second~~ first destination which a map information provider originally selects, in addition to a ~~first~~ second destination of a dealer who is under contract with the map information provider, the first and second destinations ~~to be~~ published on a map, as map information;

~~a function of~~ checking whether the several destinations include the second destination ~~or not~~ when the map information of a reference point and several destinations ~~is~~ are requested by the user terminal device;

~~a function of~~, when the above destinations include at least one ~~and~~ or more second destinations as the result of the ~~above~~ checking, notifying the user terminal device ~~of the effect~~ that the second destination ~~is with~~ requires a charge, and receiving confirmation of confirming a user's ~~will to pay~~ payment of the charge; and

~~a function of~~ performing billing processing, and creating and providing the map information including all the requested destinations and reference point on the same map when payment acceptance ~~of the payment~~ is confirmed by the user terminal device, and creating and providing the map information including the reference point and the destinations other than the second destination on the map when payment refusal ~~of the payment~~ is confirmed by the user terminal device.